

Joiner Farmhouse
Near Suffolk
Nansemond County
Virginia

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JOINER FARMHOUSE
Near Suffolk, Nansemond County, Virginia

Date of erection: Eighteenth century, probably c. 1765

Present condition: Poor, abandoned

Description:

In spite of its dilapidation the Joiner farmhouse is an important example of the southeastern Tidewater dwelling of the Colonial period. It is of frame, the walls being covered with beaded weatherboards and the roof with rounded butt shingles. It is a story and a half in height, with inside end chimneys. The front (south) is three bays, with the entrance doorway considerably off-center to the left. The door itself is of the normal six-panel type with beaded rails and stiles and beveled panels. The trim is modern.

The windows have early nine-over-nine-light sash with moderately wide muntins and shutters paneled in accordance with the entrance door. The east end elevation has two four-over-four-light windows with a normal full-size window to the right below, the corresponding window to the left being omitted. The same conditions existed at the opposite end of the building, though the vacant space was replaced by a door. A modern shed addition occurs at the rear.

The interior was inaccessible, but it appeared that the front door led into a large room at the west end of the house, while the stair occurred at the southeast corner of the east room. The trim was simple, of the period, though much deteriorated.

The house is near the Blackwater River, extensively utilized at one time for water-borne commerce.

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